

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment before beginning examination of the above-identified patent application, and early favorable action by the Examiner.

After entry of this amendment, claims 1–20 will be pending. Claims 21–31 have been cancelled and claims 1–20 have been amended to clarify the scope of the invention. Support for the claim amendments may be found, for example, in the originally filed claims of application PCT/US2004/038130 as originally filed.

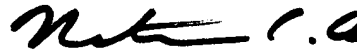
Enclosed is a check for \$1000 for the filing, search, and examination fees. Please charge any other fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 07-1700.

The claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicant's attorney would expedite allowance of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 570-1806.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 12, 2006
Reg. No.: 44,381

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